

CAFE WISEMAN
BREAD, CAKES, ETC.
Full Stocks
But
CASH PAYMENT

The Hongkong Telegraph

五拜禮 號六廿月六英港香 FRIDAY, JUNE 26, 1925. 日六初月五

TO KOWLOON RESIDENTS
AN APPEAL
The Kowloon Residents' Association appeals to its members and to residents generally to join up in the Special Constabulary, if they are not engaged upon essential service elsewhere.
All available are requested to attend at the Magistracy, Central Police Station, between the hours of 4 and 5 p.m. to-day for the purpose of being sworn in.
D. GOODWIN,
Hon. Secretary.

THE STRIKE SITUATION

PROTEST FROM CANTON GOVERNMENT.

EYE-WITNESS DESCRIBES SHOOTING FROM BEHIND GIRL STUDENTS

There is every indication that the saner elements both in Hongkong and Canton are beginning to make their influence felt. Enquiries made to-day show that there has been a state of quiet in Canton since the terrible happenings of Tuesday afternoon and no further foolish outbreaks are expected. Diplomatic negotiations are proceeding and, pending the outcome of the conversations, there is likely to be no change in the situation.

In Hongkong there is a simultaneous cessation and resumption of work, some further sections of workers leaving to-day whilst others, who previously went out, are returning. Many of the house-boys are coming back and there is an obvious want of unanimity amongst them, as indeed there is among all classes of workers. The Chinese merchants are organising a defence corps of their own, there are plenty of enrolments for the special police force, the response to the call for volunteer workers has been gratifying and there is ample evidence that the Colony is well equipped to "carry on."

THE FERRY SERVICE.

EMERGENCY ARRANGEMENTS.

It is understood that the "Star" Ferry may cease operations at mid-night and in this connection the Telegraph is authorised by Mr. T. H. King, Captain Superintendent of Police, to notify the public that arrangements have been made for the ferries to be run by naval units, but it is probable that the service will be restricted to a certain extent. Chinese passengers will not be carried, except those having season tickets or Chinese furnished with a pass to be obtained at the railway station on the Kowloon side, or at the City Hall on the Hongkong side, where a small committee will be in attendance to consider applications for passes. The passes will be issued only in urgent and deserving cases. All fares will be first class, and each pass will be available for one double journey only. Permanent passes will not be issued. We understand that, on their side, the Chinese community intend to run a ferry from Yau-ma-tei.

DOCKS NORMAL.

Yesterday, there were many absentees from the local dock establishments, but this appears to have been due to the fact that it was the Dragon Boat Festival, which is usually observed as a holiday.

At any rate, on enquiry at the Kowloon Docks, Takko Docks and Messrs. W. S. Bailey and Co. this morning we were informed that normal conditions prevailed.

MECHANICS AND FITTERS.

We understand that a notice has been circulated by the Engineers' signed by the President, asking to employers that the fitters do not intend to go out, but asking that their wages be paid weekly in view of prices prevailing and also of the demands being made when making purchases.

CHAUFFEURS.

There is no evidence at the Chinese chauffeurs' meeting. It is stated that they were informed that if their employment with them will not be continuing in Hongkong.

COMPANY'S TERPISSE.

ICE TO CAUSEWAY BAY.

In the eastern districts the bund difficulty in getting ice has pleased to hear that the Bund Shanghai Hotels, Hotel Canton to-day a motor bus to the Hongkong Hotel via Hany Valley Bay, returning this service will continue daily.

starting at 7.30 in the mornings and continuing until about 10 p.m. a quarter-hour service being maintained. The fare will be twenty cents for any part of the route.

RUSSIAN BEING DEPORTED.

The Russian reported as having been taken into custody by the police is being detained, pending his deportation to Shanghai. On enquiry at Police Headquarters this morning we were informed that the man, whose name is Dossier, held a passport which was available for direct transit to Canton only. He could not get to Canton and so he has to leave again for Shanghai where he came from. Pending his departure he is being kept under police supervision. When searched he was found to have in his possession a quantity of literature dealing anti-foreign vein.

SMALL COIN.

GOVERNMENT'S LARGE STOCKS.

With reference to extortionate money-changers, Chinese dealers and others, when Hongkong paper money is tendered, the official view is that there has been a deliberate attempt to discredit the value of Hongkong notes.

"But we have broken the back of the attempt," said the Colonial Treasurer, Mr. C. McI. Messer, when seen by a Telegraph representative this morning. "Anybody who wants small money can get all they want by applying at the Treasury for it. At one time as much as 50 cents on a dollar was being charged by change, then it came down when they knew that the Government was changing notes at par, and now it has almost entirely ceased. We have big stocks of small coins and you can let the public know that they can always get 100 cents for a dollar by coming to us."

Large quantities of small coin have been supplied to those who have applied and there is plenty more available.

RUSH FOR KONGMOON BOAT.

An ugly mob rush by crowds trying to get on board the Kung On almost before she tied up this morning, looked like causing serious trouble at the wharf this morning. The vessel leaves for Kongmoon this evening, and the gates have been closed in order to prevent a recurrence of the scene.

On the last occasion the vessel went to Kongmoon it was necessary to force many of the passengers into the hold in order to safeguard the vessel.

The Latest Stoppages.

The latest workers to walk out are the foks of the vegetable and fresh-water fish stalls. The salt water fish stalls are still open to business, but with very limited stocks.

The Tung Tack and Chap In, the two most important cargo coolies' guilds, have declared a strike.

A more personal touch to the strike situation is given by the closing up of the Chinese barber shops this morning on account of the barbers having gone out on strike.

B. A. T. PRODUCTS.

AN AMERICAN EXPLANATION.

Washington, June 25. Following instructions from China not to ship tobacco until the situation has cleared up, American Consuls have been instructed to inform the Chinese that they will chiefly hit the American producers when they refuse to buy goods of the British American Tobacco Company. (Reuter's American Service.)

WHAT PEKING IS TOLD.

CANTON GOVERNMENT'S PROTEST.

The following protest telegraphed to Ambassador Karahan by Dr. C. C. Wu is published in the Canton Gazette:

Soviet Embassy, Peking.

It is my painful duty to bring to the notice of Your Excellency, as the Dean of the Diplomatic Corps, the following incident. On the 23rd, a procession consisting of merchants, students, gauds, labourers, and peasants marched through the streets of Canton as a demonstration of sympathy for the victims of the Shanghai outrage. Perfect order was preserved. About 3.10 p.m. when it reached Shaki Road which runs parallel to the Anglo-French Concession of Shamen, but is separated from it by a canal, and when the greater portion of the procession had already passed, unexpectedly a murderous fire from machine guns and rifles was opened from Shamen on the demonstrators, particularly the students. The pandemonium among the boy and girl students, the demonstrators and spectators can be better imagined than described. The casualties, so far known total upwards of a hundred.

A commission of investigation, to which foreign consuls, judicial officials, merchants, educators, and other representative men are invited to sit, will commence immediately an impartial inquiry.

Meanwhile, I have the honour in the name of civilisation and humanity to register with Your Excellency and through you the Diplomatic representatives of the Foreign Powers in Peking, the strongest protest against this fresh outrage of Imperialism.

The case is aggravated by the fact that the demonstrators were separated from Shamen by a wide canal spanned by two bridges at the heads of which were stout iron gates closed and barricaded, and these gates were unharmed throughout.

In the face of this atrocity, the indignation of the people is natural and great. Nevertheless the Government is doing everything in its power to protect foreigners of all nationalities, to prevent the people from committing futile acts of anti-foreignism, and to guide and teach them that the struggle is rather with the system of foreign Imperialism and that it should be conducted with means worthy of the cause.

CHAO CHU WU,

Secretary for Foreign Affairs.

CANTON OUTRAGE.

TROOPS FIRED FROM BEHIND GIRL STUDENTS.

In the Shamen outrage, the firing was started by Chinese troops who were taking shelter behind girl students taking part in the procession. This definite statement was made to the Telegraph this morning by Miss Bendelack, of St. Hilda's College, Canton, who was an eye-witness of the affair.

"I was at Shamen staying with Miss Fearon," said Miss Bendelack, "and, as we knew many of the schools taking part in the demonstration, we were out watching the procession to see if we could make out the school flags. So far as we could see, however, most of the students were carrying red flags and as there was a wind blowing it was difficult to make out the characters on them. As the students began to pass the Shamen, I thought there was practically nothing going to happen, because the students were so tired-looking, although the Rev. Mr. Blanchett told me that when they started out they were in beautiful order."

"At first, when about two thousand students had passed, we thought we saw some of our students, but we could not be sure. Every now and again the procession would stop for a few minutes and the students would call out their college cries and something else which we could not hear, but people who were nearer said they were shouting: 'We are going to take Shamen.' 'We are going to take it now.'"

"Presently we saw some Poo To School girls or some Kwangtung University girls, we could not quite say which, and we noticed that there were some soldiers behind them. Then a shot was fired by one of the soldiers from behind the girls, and this was followed by the troops firing at us and firing at the Shamen from between the girl students."

"Our representative asked Miss Bendelack whether there was any doubt as to who fired first, and she emphatically replied: 'None whatever; I saw with my own eyes the soldiers fire from between the girl students. At the time, our men on the Shamen were walking about unarmed.' They did not even have their belts on, and they had been given instructions to place their rifles, unloaded, behind the sandbags. When the Chinese began shooting, our men at once rushed off for their rifles."

Miss Bendelack said she thought the girl students did not know that the soldiers near them intended to fire, because as soon as firing started they "flew for their lives." She added that the procession was so long that only a mere fraction of those taking part could see what really happened, and no doubt they had since been told that the foreigners on Shamen started the firing, and, of course believed it.

AMERICAN RESOLUTION.

CONSUL TAKES ACTION.

The following resolution contained in the Canton Gazette of yesterday has been brought to the notice of the American Consul at Shamen, who is collecting the evidence of all the Americans who witnessed the affair of Tuesday and is sending in a very strong protest to the Canton Christian College regarding their statements:

"Whereas on the afternoon of June 23rd, 1925, a Chinese patriotic parade marching along the Bund and Shaki Canton was fired upon by Shamen troops, and

"Whereas the parade was proceeding in an orderly manner and was composed largely of students and workmen unarmed and defenceless, and

"Whereas in consequence of the shooting, many were killed and wounded, including members of our staff and student body,

"Be it therefore freely and voluntarily resolved that we, American members of the staff of Canton Christian College, express our horror and regret that such an outrage should have occurred, and

"That we are of opinion that blame and responsibility for the same rests upon those who directed the firing from Shamen, and Chinese troops, and

"That we express to our colleagues students and staff support, and

"That since we feel that the world has been adequately informed of the Chinese viewpoint we formed of the Chinese, we are determined to co-operate with the Chinese in the presentation of their case, to make our position known to the American Government and to the American people in the hope that America will do all in her power to assist China in securing just treatment and in realising her aims to free herself from foreign Imperialism."

Unanimously adopted by the Seventeen American Staff Members at Canton Christian College, June 24th, 1925.

An Opposite View.
A Telegraph representative had an interesting chat with Mrs. J. D. Pugh, who until recently, was temporarily on the staff of the Canton Christian College. Mrs. Pugh had crossed over to Shamen, and was staying with some friends for a day here or two before coming down to Hongkong. Asked what was her impression of the tragic affair of last Tuesday, Mrs. Pugh said, "As one who has had an opportunity of watching the trend of events closely in Canton, I am convinced that the present chaos is simply the fruit of Bolshevism rampant. The students have allowed false sympathy to run riot, and, as a class, they prove an unfortunately fertile medium for the dastardly work of the Russian revolutionaries. From personal experience, I would say that the younger students were ignorant that last Tuesday's parade would end in bloodshed. I saw with my own eyes the expressions of horrified surprise on their faces just before they scurried away for cover. The older students were without doubt quite aware of the intention of the cadets who brought up the rear of the procession, because their horrible antics denoted complicity. They jumped about yelling extremely hostile remarks towards Shamen, such as 'Kill the foreigners, cut their throats, cut their hearts out.' Mrs. Pugh further stated that she had read the despatches of Sir James Jamieson, and she would be prepared to swear on oath if necessary that everything therein was strictly true. 'I cannot understand how both Sir James and the British naval officer escaped from the rain of bullets which was deliberately fired in their direction after an officer had given a signal which caused the cadets to face Shamen and open fire.'"

BRITISH PATROL LAUNCH STRANDED.

VILLAGE IN FLAMES.

The spectacle of a whole Chinese village in flames and a British patrol launch stranded high and dry, but still blazing away with a machine gun at unseen objects, greeted the s.s. Kung On as she reached Plover Island on her way to Hongkong from Kongmoon yesterday.

Capt. Bast, the master, gave a graphic description to a Telegraph representative this morning. He left Kongmoon he said at about four o'clock and when approaching Plover Island saw volumes of smoke rising from a large-size village. Through his glasses, he saw that in many cases the houses had already fallen in and afterwards he noticed the patrol launch Wing Lee at the southern end of the island but keeping up a fire of apparently at a hillside launch the village were roge towards gesticulating and then turning the water. The boats manned by pirates to Kongmi, vowing to clear their headquarters, it is the clear, their quarters path of the Kung On ing acrosser signalled that he and the pass. Firing ceased, wouglher launch, which appeared be flying the Portuguese pennant on the Wing Lee. When the launch was going at speed in the direction taken the pirates.

CHINESE UNREST.

BRITISH LABOUR OPINION.

London, June 25.

The General Council of the Trade Union Congress and the National Executive of the Labour Party at a joint meeting in London, passed a resolution declaring that the disgraceful working conditions in Chinese mills are the immediate cause of the present disturbances in China. The resolution expressed the opinion that immediate steps should be taken to carry out its Treaty Ports the recommendation of the Shanghai Child Labour Commission and assist the effect Government to give 'gen' so as to their recent Factoryctions of to raise the general so stated Chinese workers. Regime was that the extraterritorial and provocative and as possible should be ended Conference, on by an Internatignaying the pro-British initiative Chinese tariffs posed confereffortunity for such gives an aspect of the Treaty Ports.

THE TYPHOON.

RES SOUTH OF HONGKONG.

There was for a time a prospect of Hongkong experiencing the full force of the first typhoon of the season, but happily it passed south of the Colony early this morning, and is expected to enter the coast between Macao and Kwongchow, that is, east of the Straits of Hainan.

A representative of the Telegraph who made enquiries from Mr. C. W. Jeffries, acting Director of the Observatory, this forenoon, learned that the typhoon was travelling faster than was at first calculated, and appeared to have accelerated its velocity. The 2.30 report yesterday afternoon, which was issued at 6.30, was to the effect that the disturbance was in Lat. 16° N., Long. 118° E., and moving N.W. This position, said Mr. Jeffries, was probably too far south. It was after this that the typhoon appears to have moved with greater speed.

The Number One signal went up last evening, and the Number Two signal was up in the early hours of the morning. Shortly after 7 o'clock this morning the Number Four was up. The typhoon probably passed about 120 miles to the south of Hongkong about six o'clock this morning, moving N.W. The barometer has been steadily rising since, and no further weather disturbance is anticipated here.

Mr. Jeffries said that the wind reached gale force at Gap Rock and Waglan about 7 a.m. to-day, this being a force of No. 8, and that was probably the time when the typhoon was nearest to Hongkong.

The usual precautions were taken as to moving shipping to shelter, which in some cases was a difficult operation owing to the skeleton crews aboard, but had the typhoon struck the Colony it would not have found anyone unprepared.

CURRENT COMMENT.

The expected has happened in regard to the Shamen outrage, for the Canton authorities have come forward with a protest alleging that the firing was commenced by the foreign forces. It is a fortunate circumstance, however, that the day prior to the British Consul General warned the Canton Government of the reports in circulation of the demonstrators intending an attack on Shamen, made it quite clear that any force of arms. The attack made, and the defensive thing possible in circumstances—namely, return the fire of the empty-handed demonstrators.

On the point as to who started the firing there is, fortunately, no room for ambiguity of any kind. The British Consul General, together with the British Senior Naval Officer, was standing on the bridge during the whole time, and he has pointedly informed the Civil Governor of Canton that "I can, from the evidence of my own eyes, make a statement on oath that the firing was first started by the Chinese." More than that foreign refugees who arrived in Hongkong on board the s.s. Honam are absolutely unanimous on this point. Then there are the eye-witnesses of the affair who still remain at Shamen. These are to make statements on oath which the British Consul asserts will confirm his definite assertion that the blame rests entirely with the Chinese. In the face of such an overwhelming mass of evidence, it is ridiculous for the Canton authorities to attempt to fasten responsibility on the foreign defence forces. The fact is that the processionists, egged on by Russian officers, got entirely out of hand, with disastrous results to their own countrymen, at the same time inflicting casualties on foreigners for which the Canton Government must be held entirely responsible.

We notice that there is talk of "negotiations" on this Shamen affair. If any should take place, we trust that the Powers will insist, on their part, on the Canton Government ordering the prompt deportation of the Russian Bolsheviks in its employ.

Many complaints have reached us regarding unscrupulous Chinese dealers who are taking advantage of the present situation to profiteer on foodstuffs and other essential commodities. It was, perhaps, inevitable that the Chinese should be fleeced in this way, by shopkeepers and the like; but that is no reason why the process should be permitted to continue. The European stores are doing business at the usual rates, and there is not the slightest justification for the Chinese to put up prices. Many stories have reached us of the manner in which the price of rice is soaring upwards—a circumstance which proves that much "squeeze" is being exacted, in view of the fact that there are ample stocks in the Colony at present. Then there is the matter of discounting banknotes. Money-changers are demanding a considerable rake-off, which is nothing else than sheer robbery. We advise all residents absolutely to refuse to give any discount whatever on notes, and to report to the authorities any money-changer demanding it. In the meantime, we ask the Government to take powers, by proclamation or otherwise, to suppress this profiteering in exchange and essential commodities without further delay.

SHAMEN TRAGEDY.

B. A. T. MANAGER FOUND DEAD.

The news that Mr. H. R. Burge, the manager of the Canton branch of the British-American Tobacco Company (China) Limited, was found dead in the library of the Canton Club shortly after three o'clock on Wednesday afternoon was received in the Colony last evening and came as a severe shock to all who knew him.

Mr. Burge, who had been on the B. A. T. staff for the past nine years, was found lying by his side, and with a bullet wound in his head. It is impossible at present to ascertain the circumstances in which the body was found.

It is fairly clear that Mr. Burge's death had nothing to do with the Shamen disturbance of Tuesday, but we learn that at the inquest held at H. B. M. Consulate General later in the day the finding was reserved though a Canton correspondent who attended states that it is the general opinion that death was due to misadventure.

The deceased gentleman, who was 42 years of age and unmarried, saw service in the South African war, remained in South Africa for some time whilst the Repatriation Board was in being. Some years later he joined the Chinese Maritime Customs, and in December, 1916, he became a member of the B. A. T. He was appointed manager of the Canton Branch in August, 1920.

Mr. Burge was a prominent Freemason, and at the time of his unfortunate death was Secretary of the Star of Southern China Lodge.

STRIKE ITEMS.

Police Headquarters report that conditions are everywhere quiet in the Colony.

Yesterday, the Hongkong, Peak and Repulse Bay Hotels served no fewer than 2,592 meals to local residents.

Outside help having been obtained it is hoped that the "Empress of Asia" will be able to clear for Canada this evening.

It was reported to-day that the ricksha coolies in Kowloon had gone on strike, but on investigations it was found that only a few who were unable to pay their rent had hit upon a strike as an excuse for leaving their work.

